

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 08967 090323 Z

63

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12

AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

INT-08 GSA-01 OEP-01 AF-10 ARA-11 RSR-01 /158 W

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R 081021 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3848

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 8967

E. O. 11652: NA/ A

TAGS: EMIN, ETRD, TH

SUBJ: TIN STOCKPILE RELEASE

REF: A. STATE 107665

B. STATE 107426

BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT (REF A) DELIVERED TO PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE LATE AFTERNOON JUNE 6 LOCAL TIME. COUNSELOR FOR ECON AFFAIRS CALLED SAME AFTERNOON ON DIRECTOR GENERAL MINERAL RESOURCES DEPT. AND PRESENTED TEXT OF GSA ANNOUNCEMENT (REF. B). MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY SPECIAL ADVISOR VIJA SETHAPUT, WHO WAS MEMBER OF RECENT THAI DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON, ALSO ATTENDED AND MADE INITIAL RESPONSE.

VIJA EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT " HIS PROPOSAL" ON LEVEL OF RELEASES NOT ACCEPPTED IN WASHDC. HE PARTICULARLY CON-

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PAGE 02 BANGKO 08967 090323 Z

CERNED THAT GSA ANNOUNCEMENT MADE NO REFERENCE TO INT'L TIN COUNCIL AND PARTICULARLY, USG WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE WITH ITC IN CARRYING OUT STOCKPILE RELEASES. STATE DG MINERAL RESOURCES DEPT. WOULD BE LEAVING THIS WEEKEND FOR JUNE 11 LONDON MEETING ITC. VIJA APPEARED PLEASED THAT PRESIDENT HAD RESPONDED TO PRIME MINISTER'S LETTER ON THIS SUBJECT WHICH HE HAD HAND-CARRIED TO WASHINGTON. EXPRESSED APPRECIATION COUNSELOR'S VISIT AND SAID HE WOULD INFORM MINISTER OF INDUSTRY ASAP.

ON LEAVING DG'S OFFICE, WORKING LEVEL CONTACT IN DEPT STATE HE PERSONALLY WAS "SATISFIED" WITH GSA ANNOUNCEMENT AND ANNOUNCED DISPOSAL RATE.

MINISTER OF INTERIOR JUNE 8 IN LUNCHEON CONVERSATION WITH ECON COUNSELOR, WHO INTRODUCED SUBJECT OF TIN RELEASE, EXPRESSED NO GREAT CONCERN. STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF USG TAKING A LOOK AT MARKET SITUATION AT END DECMEBER 1973. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

THAI PRESS SO FAR LIMITED COVERAGE TO VERY SHORT BULLETIN ON FRONT PAGE BANGKOK POST, JUNE 7 AND JUNE 8 POST ARTICLE IN BUSINESS NEWS SECTION BEGINNING "US INFORMED THAILAND THAT AS OF YESTERDAY IT HAS RESUMED TIN SALES." REMAINDER OF ARTICLE DESCRIBES AMOUNT TO BE SOLD, SHARP DECLINE IN WORLD MARKET PRICE, AND TEXT OF GSA ANNOUNCEMENT. ALSO NATION JUNE 8 HAS A SHORT ARTICLE ON PAGE EIGHT BEGINNING "AN OUTCRY IS EXPECTED OVER U. S. DECISION TO BEGIN RELEASING TIN ORE FROM ITS STRATEGIC STOCKPILE YESTERDAY. PRESIDENT OF THAI MINERS ASSOCIATION MR. PRAYAD NIAMSAKU HAS SCHEDULED A PRESS CONFERENCE THIS MORNING AND IS EXPECTED TO CONDEMN DECISION." ARTICLE CONCLUDED RTG "ATTEMPTED TO BLOCK THIS RELEASE LAST MONTH BY SENDING DEPUTY COMMERCE MINISTER MR. OSOT KOSIN TO WASHINGTON BUT HE WAS UNSUCCESSFUL."

AFTERNOON WORLD JUNE 8 REPORTS PRAYAD PRESS CONFERENCE ON FRONT PAGE BEGINNING "THAI MINING ASSOCIATION THIS MORNING STRONGLY PROTESTED OVER U. S. MOVE TO RELEASE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BANGKO 08967 090323 Z

ABOUT 200,000 TONS OF TIN STOCKPILES INTO WORLD MARKET, CLAIMING IT WOULD SEVERELY HAMPER TIN SUPPLIES OF THAILAND...(AND) RENDER FATAL BLOW TO ECONOMY OF THIS COUNTRY." STROY JUGGLED FIGURES TO SUPPORT POINTS MADE AND CONCLUDED "LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES HAVE EXPRESSED GRAVE CONCERN THAT THE RELEASE WOULD SERIOUSLY AFFECT ECONOMY OF PEOPLE IN SOUTH (THAILAND)."

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: hilburpw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BANGKO08967
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730621/aaaajcro.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A.STATE 107665, B.STATE 107426
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hilburpw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Aug-2001 by kellerpr>; APPROVED <21-Dec-2001 by hilburpw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 980209
Subject: TIN STOCKPILE RELEASE
TAGS: EMIN, ETRD, TH
To: EB
KUALA LUMPUR
LONDON
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005